

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3827

CONFIDENTIAL BUCHAREST 3594

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, RO (ALBERT, CARL)

SUBJ: CODEL ALBERT - CONGRESSMAN'S MICHEL'S INTEREST

IN APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH (NAZARENES)

REF: STATE 176387

1. WE SHARE DEPARTMENT'S OPINION THAT GOR AUTHORITIES
ARE UNLIKELY TO CHANGE THEIR NEGATIVE SIGNALS ON U.S.
NAZARENES' DESIRE TO GAIN GOR RECOGNITION AND TO SEND
FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL AID TO ROMANIAN BRETHREN.

2. EMBASSY WAS BARELY ABLE TO PREVAIL UPON DEPARTMENT
OF CULTS TO RECEIVE U.S. NAZARENES' DELEGATION DURING
THEIR LAST VISIT, AND IN THE INTERIM NO FRESH IDEAS HAVE
SURFACED ON HOW THE GOR MIGHT BE PERSUADED TO TAKE
MORE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE.

3. WE SENSE NO PARTICULAR SLACKENING OF VIGILANCE
AT THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTS SINCE DOGARU'S RETIREMENT.
ROMANIAN NAZARENES' SMALL NUMBERS, HUNGARIAN ROOTS,
AND RELUCTANCE TO TAKE STATE OATHS MILITATE AGAINST
MUCH GOR SYMPATHY.

4. AT THE SAME TIME, AURA OF GOOD FEELING ENGENDERED
BY CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF TRADE AGREEMENT, PRESIDENT
FORD'S VISIT, AND CODEL TOUR MAKE PRESENT MOMENT AS
PROPITIOUS AS ANY FOR ANOTHER TRY.

5. WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO SOUND OUT DEPARTMENT OF CULTS
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AS TO WHETHER THEY WOULD CARE TO TALK WITH CONGRESSMAN

MICHEL IN CONFIDENCE. ROMANIANS WILL BE DOUBLY SHY OF
DIALOGUE IF THEY SUSPECT THEY ARE BEING SET UP FOR
PILLORYING ON CAPITOL HILL, AS CONGRESSMAN
MICHEL WILL UNDERSTAND. PLEASE ADVISE IF CONGRESSMAN
WISHES US TO TRY TO ARRANGE SUCH A MEETING.
BARNES

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